



# · DORKING

URBAN DISTRICT.

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ANNU, AL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1944.

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Municipal Offices Annexe, 14, Waterloo Road, EPSOM.

To the Chairman and Members of the Housing Committee of the Dorking Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

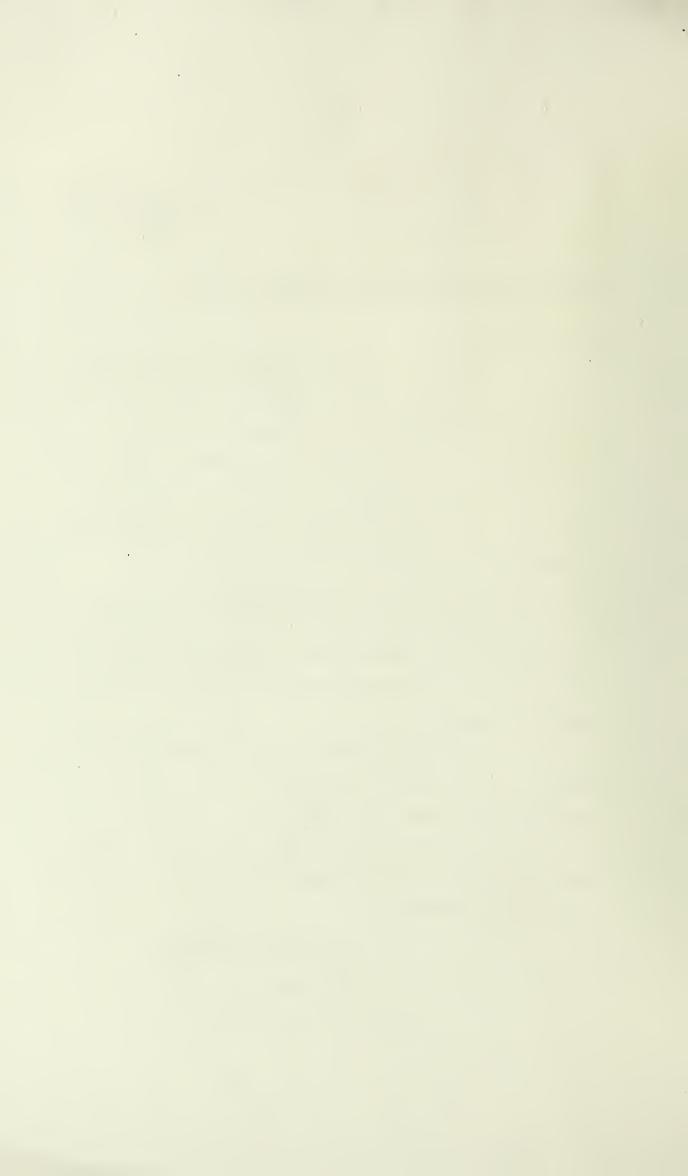
I have the honour to submit an Annual Report on the work of my department for the year 1944. It is in the abbreviated form rendered necessary by war-time requirements. It covers a period during which I was absent from duty on account of illness, when the work attaching to the office of Medical Officer of Health was undertaken by deputy Medical Officers, by Dr. J.A.A. Duncan until June 1944, and subsequently by Dr. A.H. Gerrard. I take the opportunity to add to the tribute already paid by the Council, for the efficient and conscientious way in which Dr. Gerrard carried out his temporary duties.

The Report includes extracts from the Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. D. Allan, upon whom falls much of the work connected with the Public Health of the district. Mr. Allan has made great efforts to maintain the efficiency of his office, in spite of staffing difficulties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.



# DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

#### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:
Cyrus Ive, M.B., B.S. (Iond), M.R.C.S. (Eng), L.R.C.P. (Lond),
D.P.H.

(Absent on sick leave 1st Jan. 1944 - 31st Dec. 1944)

Temporary Medical Officers of Health: John A.A. Duncan, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (Edin), L.R.F.P.S.(Glas)., D.P.H.(Lond) (Resigned 3/6/44)

A.H. Gerrard, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (Commenced 4/6/44)

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

D. Allan, M.S.I.A., A.R. San.I., Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

+ N.G. Tubb, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

#### Clerical Staff.

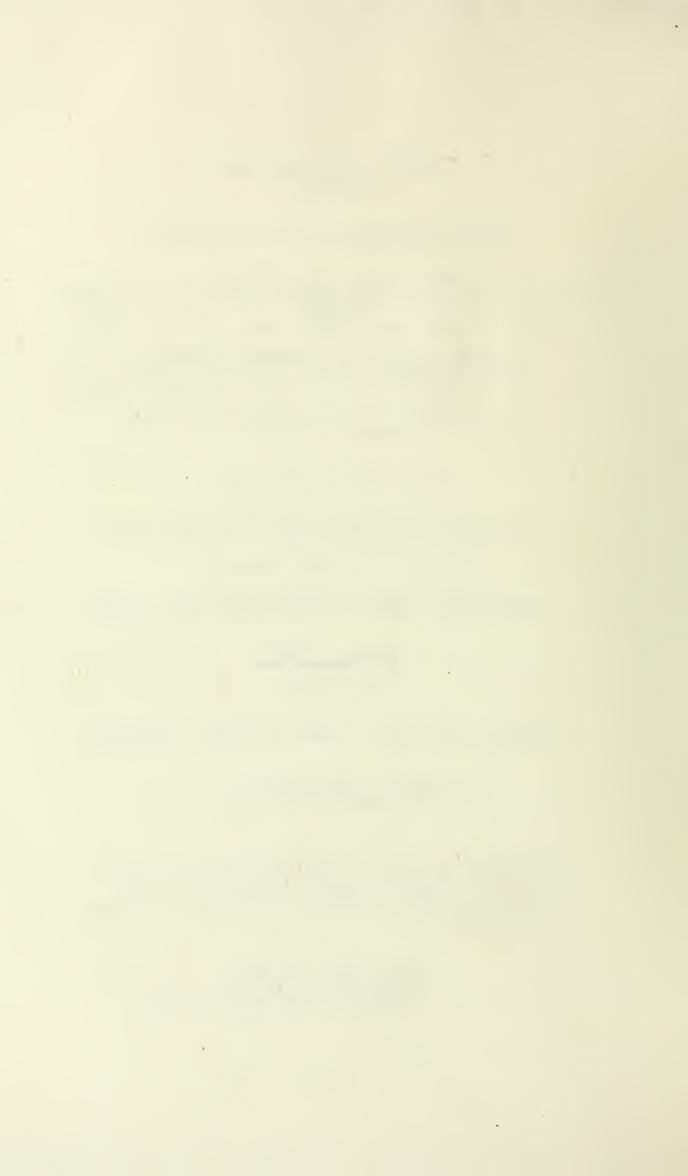
C.H. Argent.

Ø P. Hunt Miss N. Hearn. Clerical Assistants to Medical Officer of Health.

Miss P. Churchyard. Clerk to Sanitary Inspector.

(The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Assistants act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley).

+ Mobilised 1.9.1939. Ø H.M. Forces 1.9.1939. (Killed in action 10.4.1944)



# DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## 1. Statistics and Social conditions for the Area.

9,511 15,204 Area (Acres) . . Population (Census 1931) ... Population (Estimated mid-year 1944)... 18,600 Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year. Live Births Total Μ. F. Total live births 381 193 188 Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated 165 334 169 resident population Legitimate. 24 Illegitimate. 47 Still Births Total M. F. Total still births 8 2. Rate per 1,000 total live and 6 still births .. 20.6 1 Legitimate. Illegitimate. 1 Deaths (net) 258 121 137 Crude death .. 13.9 rate Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:-Total Μ. Total infant deaths 16 11 Legitimate. 15 10 5 Illegitimate. 1 Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births ... 42.0 Death rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 44.9 Death rate of Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 21.3 . . Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-Deaths. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births. Puerperal Sepsis. Ni1 0.00 Other Puerperal Causes. 1 2.57 Deaths from: -.. Nil Measles (all ages) Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil Diarrhoea (under two years of age) Nil Cancer (all ages)

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# 2. General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

No alterations of note have occurred during the year.

During the period under review the following bacteriological examinations were carried out as follows:-

For	the	diagnosis	of	Diphtheria	30
11	11	11	11	Tuberculosis	10
11	11	′ 11	Ħ	Enteric Fever.	57
ff	11	11	t1	Haemolytic	
				Streptococci	.21

#### 3. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

# Water Supply.

Main water was laid on to a farm and three farm cottages as the result of informal action taken in 1943.

In January 1944 complaints were received regarding the overflow of sewage from the drainage system of a large house used as a military billet. The premises in question had a private water 'supply which also served four other dwellings for drinking and domestic purposes and also a dairy. A sample of the water revealed very heavy contamination by sewage.

The occupiers of all the premises concerned were immediately warned to boil all water before use, and the Assistant Director of Medical Services for the District was also informed and asked to deal with the causes of the trouble.

The dairy and two dwellings were connected to the Dorking Water Company's main supply thus eliminating this contamination. The other premises concerned were too far from the main to be connected at a reasonable expense. The Army Hygiene Section personnel dealt with the chlorination of the private supply and the treatment of the sewage polluted ground, and within a month the water was again suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

#### 4. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

I am indebted to Mr. Donald Allan, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Senior Sanitary Inspector, for the following summary of the work of his department during the year:-

Inspections and re-inspections under Housing and Public Health Acts. etc.

Premises.	Number.
Dwelling-houses.	617
Camp sites.	18
Vans, Tents, and Sheds.	275
Shops.	110
Slaughter-houses.	14
Butchers shops.	38
Dairies.	42
Cowsheds.	39
Milkshops.	10
Bakehouses.	5
Factories with mechanical power.	9
Factories without mechanical power.	i
Food Preparation Rooms.	93
	1,271



# 4. Sanitary Inspection of the Area (Continued)

Premises.			Number.
Infected Premises. Offices. Schools. Swimming Pools. Other premises.	Brought	Forward.	1,271 87 4 3 21 1,389

Complaints in respect of one hundred and sixty-six premises were received and dealt with during the year.

Conditions found to require the service of notices and the results of action taken.

TOBULUS OF ACCION CARCIN.	Found.	Condition
		Remedied.
Verminous houses.	7	7
Plastering required. '	5 5 2 4	1 1 2 4
Decoration required.	5	1
Defective cesspools and septic tanks.	2	2
Overflowing cesspools.	4	4
Defective drains.	14	17/
Defective w.c. cisterns.	3	1
Defective w.c. pedestals.	10	2
Defective pail closets.	1	1
Defective ashbins.	87	17/ 2 1 71 7 2 5 2
Defective water supply pipes.	1 7 2 20 3 9 6 <b>12</b>	1
Inadequate or unwholesome water supply.	7	7
Defective brickwork.	2	2
Defective roofs.	20	5
Defective rainwater downspouts.	3	2
Defective cavesgutters.	9	1
Defective window-frames.	6	
Damp walls and floors.	12	4 5
Defective floors.	19 5 1	5
Defective chimneystacks.	5	-
Defective doors.	1	-
Defective stair treads and risers.	1	-
Defective portable ranges and		
fireplaces.	9	000
Defective yard surfaces and passages.	9 8 3	-
Accumulations of refuse.	3	3 1
Accumulation of manure.	1	1
Food Preparation Rooms requiring		
cleansing,	2	2

# Notices served and complied with.

Public Health Act, 193	<u>.66</u> .		Informal.	Formal.
Served Complied with	• •	• •	146 94	2 2
Housing Act, 1936.				
Served. Complied with.	• •	• •	22 4	1



## Notices served and complied with (Continued)

Factories Act, 1937.	Informal.	Formal.
Served Complied with	1 -	ene teat
Milk and Dairies Acts & Orders.		
Served Complied with	ī	<u> </u>
Food & Drugs Act, 1938.		
Served Complied with	2 2	

#### Shops Act, 1934.

During the year one hundred and ten inspections of shops were made. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

#### Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary.

### Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in Dorking where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

#### Swimming Baths and Pools.

As last year, the only pools open to the public during the year were three privately owned ones, all of which have modern chlorinating plants capable of keeping the water in a satisfactory state of purity.

#### Schools.

A detailed inspection of St. Martins School, West Street, revealed that the sanitary facilities fell short in many ways of the standards suggested by the Board of Education in Educational Pamphlet No. 107, published by H.M. Stationery Office, 1937, on "Elementary School Buildings".

The closet accommodation throughout was of an obsolete type. Lavatory basins were very inadequate in numbers, and no provision was made for drinking water.

At the time of writing, work is in hand to provide two drinking water fountains and additional lavatory basins.

#### Camping Sites in area.

The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, is twelve.

### Common lodging-house.

The common lodging-house, containing beds for thirty-two persons (all male) was maintained in a reasonable condition.

#### Bed-bugs and Fleas.

As the result of complaints and inspections, seven premises were found to be verminous. Of these, one was a Council house.

#### Treatment:-

With Zaldecide only. 3
With Zaldecide and Blow-lamp.3
With 4-cide and Blow-lamp. 1

#### FACTORIES.

Inspections and re-inspections were made during the year to nine factories with mechanical power and one factory without mechanical power. The general sanitary conditions found were satisfactory, and only one defect was found.

#### HOUSING.

- 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-
  - (a) Total number of dwelling-houses (1)inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).

    (b) Number of inspections made for the 310
    - 617 purpose.
  - (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head l above) which were inspected and recorded under the (2) Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. 28
    - (b) Number of inspections made for the 53 purpose.
  - (3)Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. Nil.
  - (4)Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 162
- 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their 101 Officers.

- 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-
- A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936:-
  - (1)Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.



# HOUSING (Continued)

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
  - (a) By owners.(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.

1.

- B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
  - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
    - (a) By owners. 1
      (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -
- C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
  - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.
- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
  - (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.
  - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.
- 4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV Overcrowding.

While no details are available as to the present extent of overcrowding in the district, it can be assumed that a considerable amount exists, which will be discovered only by a complete survey.

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## (a) Milk.

Thirty-seven samples of ordinary milk were analysed during the year. The results showed that four were unsatisfactory. Three of these samples were produced outside the Urban area, and the reports were passed on to the authority concerned for investigation. The remaining case was investigated and further sampling produced satisfactory results.



#### Pasteurised Milk.

Six samples of pasteurised milk were analysed, five of which proved satisfactory.

#### Biological Examination.

Eight samples were submitted for examination by the guinea pig test. Seven were satisfactory, but one revealed a localised mild infection of tuberculosis. The report was forwarded through the usual channels to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Veterinary Service.

#### Designated Milk Supply.

The following licences for the sale of designated milk, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year:-

Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, bottled by the Dealer Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin	1
Tested" milk, obtained by the Dealer in bottles. Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised"	2
milk.	1
Supplementary Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk.	2
Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk.	3

# (b) Meat.

At the premises formerly used by the Ministry of Food as a central slaughterhouse, the following animals, all of which were for "casualty" slaughter, were killed and inspected:-

Cows.	Calves.	Swine.
3	3	20

### Found to be diseased.

Entire carcase and organs of one calf
- tuberculosis - 70 lbs.

Entire carcase and organs of one pig
- tuberculosis - 50 lbs.

Two pairs cows' lungs - tuberculosis - 18 lbs.

# ADULTERATION OF FOODS, ETC.

The Surrey County Council are the authorities for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that twenty-nine of milk and seventeen of other articles were analysed during the year. Evidence of adulteration or deterioration was found in six samples.



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table III shows the total of the various infectious diseases (except Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1944, classified according to age, together with the number of cases removed to Isolation Hospital for treatment.

SMALLPOX. No case of smallpox was notified during the period under review. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Prevention of Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER. A considerable increase was shown in the incidence of this disease during the year 1944 when eighty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified as against thirty-three for the year 1943. One case was allowed to be home nursed after home and nursing facilities were found to be satisfactory, and the remaining patients were admitted to isolation hospital for treatment. One of the main causes of the increase was an epidemic which affected fifteen of the inmates of a residential private school. The energetic action taken by the Acting Medical Officer of Health was successful in limiting this outbreak.

in limiting this outbreak.

A case-rate of 4.46 per thousand of population is recorded compared with the rate of 2.40 for England and Wales.

<u>DIPHTHERIA</u>. It is gratifying to report that there were no cases of Diphtheria in the district during the year. Two patients with suspected Diphtheria were admitted to isolation hospital for observation and treatment. In neither case was the diagnosis confirmed.

The case-rate for diphtheria for England and Wales was 0.58.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. During the year two hundred and eighty-eight children received treatment under the Council's scheme and by private practitioners as follows:-

Under 5 years.	Over 5 years, but under 15 years.
230	58

The state of immunisation of the child population shown at the end of the year is estimated to be as follows:-

*	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years but under 15 years.
Estimated Population Number immunised.	1,468 803 (54.7%)	2,889 1,847 (64%)

The above figures do not give the exact position owing to the fact that the majority of children do not commence treatment until they have reached their first birthday.



By excluding the one year old age group from the calculation the following figures are obtained:-

	Over 1 year but under 5 years.	
Estimated Population Number immunised.	1,175 803 (68%)	2,889 1,847 (64%)

TYPHOID FEVER. The only case of Typhoid Fever which occurred was brought to notice after a post-mortem examination had been carried out, the patient having died within a few days of the initial onset of the illness. No medical practitioner was called in until the patient was in a moribund state. Investigations were carried out to trace the source of infection, but no definite results were obtained.

A case-rate of 0.05 per thousand population is recorded compared with 0.01 for England and Wales.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. Six cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. Three notifications related to women normally resident outside the district.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of thirty-two new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table IV, together with an analysis of the deaths from the disease assigned to the district during the same period. The new cases include, in addition to those officially notified, eight patients who came into the district from other districts in which they had already been notified, and four persons who died from tuberculosis without previous notification.

Seven deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis representing an annual death rate of 0.38 per thousand population. There were no deaths caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The case-rate for pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis per thousand population for England and Wales was 0.62.

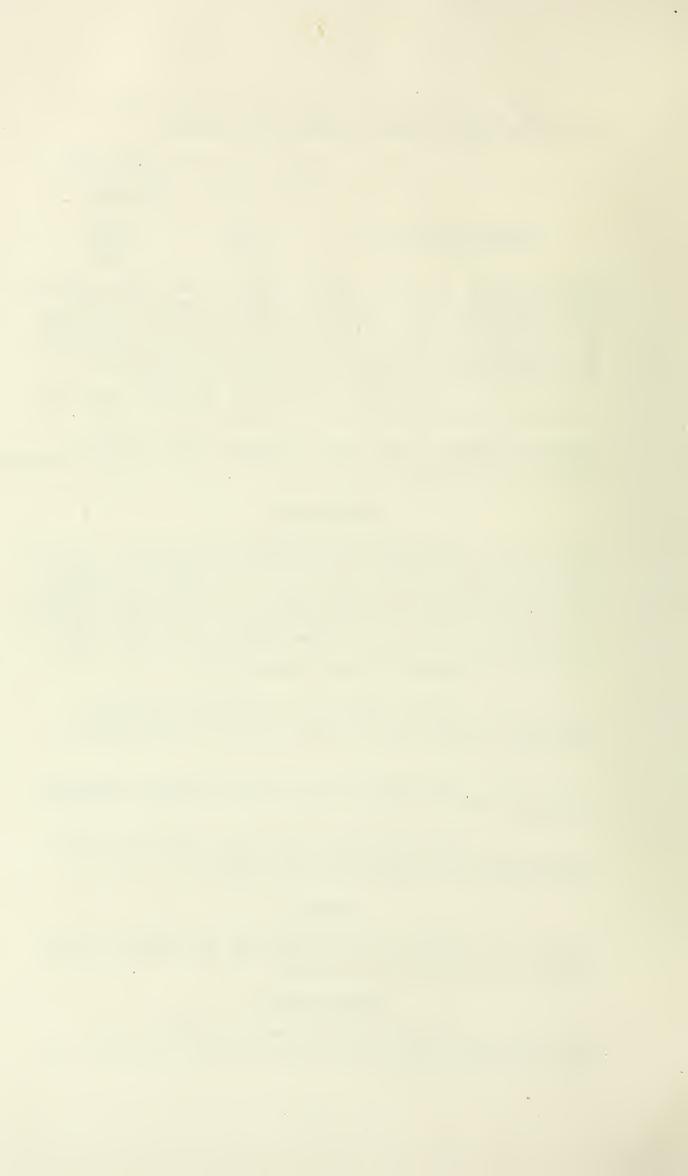
No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

#### SCABIES.

Eighty-one patients were reported as having attended the Out-patients Department of the Dorking County Hospital for treatment of scabies.

#### DISINFECTION.

Eighteen premises were disinfected, ten after the occurrence of notifiable infectious disease, and eight for other purposes.



COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES. TABLE I.

	1881 - 1890 1891 - 1900 1901 - 1910 1911 - 1920 1921 - 1930 1931 - 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1944	Period.	
	₩0,000 H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H	England and Vales.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Living.
	26.8 221.6 16.5 12.9 16.7 20.5	Dorking U.D.	nuel Birth
	12.4.4.2.1 12.4.4.4.2.1 12.6.0.2.1.4.4.4.4.6.4.6.4.6.4.6.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4	England and Vales.	Average Annual Death Rate per
	14.9 14.4 14.2 13.0 12.2 13.6(11.7) 13.6 13.9	Dorking U.D.	mual Crude per 1,000.
D 1:+1:-	142 123 100 100 44 46	England and Wales.	Average Annual Infant Mortality Rate.0
	044 044 044 044 044 044 044 044 044 044	Dorking U.D.	Annuel Infant y Rate.0

O i.e.Deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 births.

+ Including civilian mortality only from 1915-1920.

The death rate figures in parentheses have been adjusted by the "areal comparability factor."

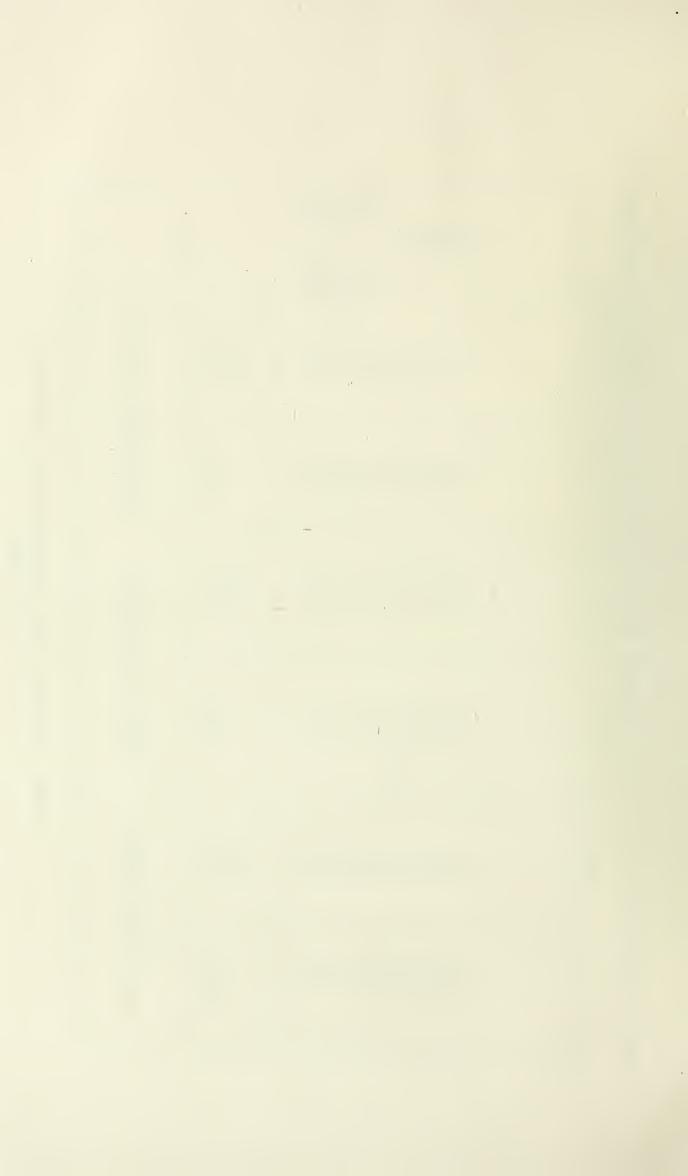


TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT.

1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers . 1



		Whooping Cough.	Weasles.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperel Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Typhoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Smallpox.	Lisease.		
J		<b>№</b>	3	W	ŧ	3	1	if t	1	Under 1.		
4		N	Н	ero,	l.	Н	1	ı	ľ	1 - 2		
4		w	1	٤	ę	٦	9		1	2 - 3		
9		2	1	ı	1	J	ı	7	1	3 - 4		
6		w	J	t	ı	\$	ı	w	1	4 - 5		
56		72	N	3	ı	1		42	ı	5 <b>-</b> 10	2 0	
27	b =	Н	10	ı	1	1	1	22	ı	10 - 15	TOTAL CO.	
2		ı	1	ı	1	ı	1	N	1	10 - 15	7	
10	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Н	ω	ı	ω	1	<u>}-</u>	<b>⊳</b>	1	20 - 35		
6		1	ı	1	ω	2	1	<b> 4</b>	1	35 - 45		
4		ı	1	1	ı	N	9	N	1	45 - 65		
1			1	ı	ì	ىخ	3	1	į	65 and over.		
134		26	ω	ω	6	7	Н	83	1	At all ages.		
84		1	N	1	1	į	1	82	ı	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.		



Totals.		Age Period.  Under 1.  1 - 5 5 - 10 10- 15 15-:20
21	4 W & H W H	Pulmonary.
5	HH 1 H 1 6	
ω	e a a <sup>5</sup> e	New Cases.  Non-Pulmonary.  M F  2 2 2 1
ω	11111	onary.
j-1	111111	Pulmonary.
6	HH 1 HH0	The De l
1	1	Non-Pulmonary.
1	1 8 2 7 8	nary.



TABLE V.

			<del>,</del>						
	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County.	Dorking Urban District				
Births -	Rates per 1,000 Population.								
Live Still	17.6 0.50	20.3	20.9 0.61	15.0 0.42	20.5				
Deaths - All Causes Typhoid and Para	11.6.	13.7	12.4	15.7	13.9				
typhoid Fevers Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Diphtheria Influenza Smallpox Measles		0.00 0.00 0.03 0.03 0.10	0.00 0.00 0.02 0.03 0.11 -	0.00 0.00 0.04 0.01 0.08 -	0.05 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.16				
Notifications - Typhoid Fever Paratyphoid "	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05				
Cerebro-spinal Fever Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Diphtheria Erysipelas Smallpox Measles Pneumonia	0.05 2.40 2.49 0.58 0.29 0.00 4.16 0.97	0.06 2.41 2.49 0.67 0.32 0.00 4.51 1.13	0.04 2.67 2.29 0.69 0.28 0.00 3.94 0.82	0.06 1.57 2.90 0.31 0.37 0.00 2.98 0.93	0.00 4.46 1.40 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.43 0.38				
Deaths under 1	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.								
year of age Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under	46	52	747+	61	42.0				
2 years of age	4,8	7.3	4.4	10.1	0.00				
Maternal	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e.Live and Still).  (Excluding Abortion)								
Mortality - Puerperal Sepsis Others Total	0.28 1.25 1.53	mg Adortio	Not available	(	0.00 2.57 2.57				
Notifications - Puerperal Pyrexia.	10.34	13.13	9.25	14.14	14.42				

